

REMARKS

Claims 1-49 were previously pending in this patent application. Claims 7-10, 17-20, 29-32, and 42-45 were previously withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 C.F.R. Section 1.142(b). Claims 1-6, 11-16, 21-28, 33-41, and 46-49 stand rejected. Herein, Claims 1, 11, 23, and 36 are amended. Accordingly, after this Amendment and Response, Claims 1-6, 11-16, 21-28, 33-41, and 46-49 remain pending in this patent application. Further examination and reconsideration in view of the arguments set forth below is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. Section 112, second paragraph, Rejections

Claims 2, 12, 24, and 37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicants regards as the invention. In particular, it was stated that Claims 2, 12, 24, and 37 recited the phrase "said one or more first gestures correspond to a plurality of handwriting strokes", which was not clear.

It is respectfully submitted that Claims 2, 12, 24, and 37 are definite and particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicants regard as the invention. Claim 2 is dependent on Independent Claim 1. In particular, Independent Claim 1 recites "a data input surface for detecting a

gesture performed thereon by a user ... wherein said user removable template is positioned over said data input surface for dividing said data input surface into a first data input area ... wherein said first data input area is configured to facilitate recognition of one or more first gestures” (emphasis added). This clearly illustrates that a user performs gestures on the data input surface, on which the user removable template is positioned. Moreover, the user removable template divides the data input surface into at least a first data input area on which the user performs one or more first gestures. Further, Claim 2 specifies that the one or more first gestures performed by the user are handwriting strokes. A similar analysis is applicable to Claims 12, 24, and 37. In light of the above arguments, withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 2, 12, 24, and 37 is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. Section 102(b) Rejections

Claims 1-5, 11-15, 23-27, 33, 36-40, 46 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Deeran et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,594,471 (hereafter Deeran). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Independent Claim 1 recites:

A data input device comprising:

a data input surface for detecting a gesture performed thereon by a user and for facilitating recognition of said gesture as corresponding to a particular data input, wherein ***said data input surface*** is responsive to a touch thereon and ***is in an unabutted location relative to a perimeter of a display device***; and

a user removable template having one of a plurality of marking configurations, wherein each marking configuration facilitates operating

said data input surface in one of a plurality of functional configurations, wherein said user removable template is positioned over said data input surface for dividing said data input surface into a first data input area and a second data input area, wherein said first data input area is configured to facilitate recognition of one or more first gestures, and wherein said second data input area is configured to facilitate recognition of one or more second gestures associated with one of said functional configurations. (emphasis added)

It is respectfully asserted that Deeran does not disclose the present invention as recited in Independent Claim 1. In particular, Deeran is directed to an industrial workstation 10 that includes a single piece touchscreen 12, which includes a display touch zone 14 that is mounted in front of a display screen 16 and a peripheral or border touch zone 18 that is mounted beyond the perimeter of but peripheral to the display screen 16. [Deeran; Figures 1 and 2; Col. 3, lines 26-39]. Further, a template overlay 15 is placed over the border touch zone 18 and includes markings 17 which identify user input areas of the touchscreen 12 outside of the display touch zone 14. Id. Hence, Deeran discloses a data input area/surface 18 with a template overlay 15 placed over it, wherein the data input area/surface 18 abuts the perimeter of the display screen 16 since the display touch zone 14 is mounted in front of the display screen 16. However, Deeran does not disclose a data input surface that is in an unabutted location relative to a perimeter of a display device.

Unlike Deeran, Independent Claim 1 is directed to a data input device.

The data input device includes a data input surface that is in an unabutted

location relative to a perimeter of a display device. Moreover, the data input device further includes a user removable template that is positioned over the data input surface. As described above, Deeran does not disclose all the cited claim limitations of Independent Claim 1. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Independent Claim 1 is not anticipated by Deeran and is in condition for allowance.

Dependent Claims 2-5 are dependent on allowable Independent Claim 1, which is allowable over Deeran. Hence, it is respectfully submitted that Dependent Claims 2-5 are patentable over Deeran for the reasons discussed above.

With respect to Independent Claim 11, it is respectfully submitted that Independent Claim 11 recites similar limitations as in Independent Claim 1. In particular, the user removable data input device of Independent Claim 11 includes a data input surface that is responsive to a touch thereon and is in an unabutted location relative to a perimeter of a display device. While in Independent Claim 1 a user removable template can be removed and replaced with another user removable template having a different marking configuration to provide a different functional configuration for the data input surface, in Independent Claim 11 the user removable data input device can be removed from an electronic system and replaced with another user removable data input

device having a different marking configuration to provide the data input surface having a different functional configuration. Therefore, Independent Claim 11 is not anticipated by Deeran and is allowable for reasons discussed in connection with Independent Claim 1.

Dependent Claims 12-15 are dependent on allowable Independent Claim 11, which is allowable over Deeran. Hence, it is respectfully submitted that Dependent Claims 12-15 are patentable over Deeran for the reasons discussed above.

With respect to Independent Claim 23, it is respectfully submitted that Independent Claim 23 recites similar limitations as in Independent Claim 1. In particular, the electronic system of Independent Claim 23 includes a data input device and an electronic display device. The data input device includes a data input surface that is responsive to a touch thereon and is in an unabutted location relative to a perimeter of the electronic display device, and a user removable template having one of a plurality of marking configurations. Each marking configuration facilitates operating the data input surface in one of a plurality of functional configurations. The user removable template is positioned over the data input surface for dividing the data input surface into first and second data input areas. Therefore, Independent Claim 23 is not anticipated by Deeran and is allowable for reasons discussed in connection with Independent Claim 1.

Dependent Claims 24-27 and 33 are dependent on allowable Independent Claim 23, which is allowable over Matsui. Hence, it is respectfully submitted that Dependent Claims 24-27, and 33 are patentable over Deeran for the reasons discussed above.

With respect to Independent Claim 36, it is respectfully submitted that Independent Claim 36 recites similar limitations as in Independent Claim 1. In particular, the electronic system of Independent Claim 36 includes a user removable data input device and an electronic display device. The user removable data input device includes a data input surface that is responsive to a touch thereon and is in an unabutted location relative to a perimeter of the electronic display device. Further, the user removable data input device has one of a plurality of marking configurations. Each marking configuration facilitates operating the data input surface in one of a plurality of functional configurations. Moreover, the data input surface has a first and second data input areas. Therefore, Independent Claim 36 is not anticipated by Deeran and is allowable for reasons discussed in connection with Independent Claim 1.

Dependent Claims 37-40, and 46 are dependent on allowable Independent Claim 36, which is allowable over Deeran. Hence, it is respectfully

submitted that Dependent Claims 37-40, and 46 are patentable over Deeran for the reasons discussed above.

35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) Rejections

Claims 22, 35, 48, and 49 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Deeran et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,594,471 (hereafter Deeran) in view of Matsui et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,493,365 (hereafter Matsui). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Dependent Claim 22 is dependent on allowable Independent Claim 11, which is allowable over Deeran. Moreover, Matsui does not disclose a user removable data input device that includes a data input surface that is responsive to a touch thereon and is in an unabutted location relative to a perimeter of a display device. Further, the user removable data input device has one of a plurality of marking configurations, wherein each marking configuration facilitates operating the data input surface in one of a plurality of functional configurations, as recited in Claim 11. Hence, it is respectfully submitted that Dependent Claim 22 is patentable over Deeran and Matsui for the reasons discussed above.

Dependent Claim 35 is dependent on allowable Independent Claim 23, which is allowable over Deeran. Moreover, Matsui does not disclose an

electronic system having an electronic display device, a data input device that includes a data input surface that is responsive to a touch thereon and is in an unabutted location relative to a perimeter of the electronic display device, and a user removable template having one of a plurality of marking configurations, wherein each marking configuration facilitates operating the data input surface in one of a plurality of functional configurations, and wherein the user removable template is positioned over the data input surface, as recited in Claim 23. Hence, it is respectfully submitted that Dependent Claim 35 is patentable over Deeran and Matsui for the reasons discussed above.

Dependent Claims 48 and 49 are dependent on allowable Independent Claim 36, which is allowable over Deeran. Moreover, Matsui does not disclose an electronic system having an electronic display device and a user removable data input device that includes a data input surface that is responsive to a touch thereon and is in an unabutted location relative to a perimeter of the electronic display device. Further, the user removable data input device has one of a plurality of marking configurations, wherein each marking configuration facilitates operating the data input surface in one of a plurality of functional configurations, as recited in Claim 36. Hence, it is respectfully submitted that Dependent Claims 48 and 49 are patentable over Deeran and Matsui for the reasons discussed above.

Claims 6, 16, 28, and 41 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Deeran et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,594,471 (hereafter Deeran) in view of Ganthier et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,865,546 (hereafter Ganthier) and Sylvan et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,572,573 (hereafter Sylvan). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Dependent Claim 6 is dependent on allowable Independent Claim 1, which is allowable over Deeran. Moreover, Ganthier and Sylvan do not disclose a data input device that includes a data input surface that is responsive to a touch thereon and is in an unabutted location relative to a perimeter of a display device, and a user removable template having one of a plurality of marking configurations, wherein each marking configuration facilitates operating the data input surface in one of a plurality of functional configurations, and wherein the user removable template is positioned over the data input surface, as recited in Claim 1. Hence, it is respectfully submitted that Dependent Claim 6 is patentable over Deeran, Ganthier, and Sylvan for the reasons discussed above.

Dependent Claim 16 is dependent on allowable Independent Claim 11, which is allowable over Deeran. Moreover, Ganthier and Sylvan do not disclose a user removable data input device that includes a data input surface that is responsive to a touch thereon and is in an unabutted location relative to a perimeter of a display device. Further, the user removable data input device has

one of a plurality of marking configurations, wherein each marking configuration facilitates operating the data input surface in one of a plurality of functional configurations, as recited in Claim 11. Hence, it is respectfully submitted that Dependent Claim 16 is patentable over Deeran, Ganthier, and Sylvan for the reasons discussed above.

Dependent Claim 28 is dependent on allowable Independent Claim 23, which is allowable over Deeran. Moreover, Ganthier and Sylvan do not disclose an electronic system having an electronic display device, a data input device that includes a data input surface that is responsive to a touch thereon and is in an unabutted location relative to a perimeter of the electronic display device, and a user removable template having one of a plurality of marking configurations, wherein each marking configuration facilitates operating the data input surface in one of a plurality of functional configurations, and wherein the user removable template is positioned over the data input surface, as recited in Claim 23. Hence, it is respectfully submitted that Dependent Claim 28 is patentable over Deeran, Ganthier, and Sylvan for the reasons discussed above.

Dependent Claim 41 is dependent on allowable Independent Claim 36, which is allowable over Deeran. Moreover, Ganthier and Sylvan do not disclose an electronic system having an electronic display device and a user removable data input device that includes a data input surface that is responsive to a touch

thereon and is in an unabutted location relative to a perimeter of the electronic display device. Further, the user removable data input device has one of a plurality of marking configurations, wherein each marking configuration facilitates operating the data input surface in one of a plurality of functional configurations, as recited in Claim 36. Hence, it is respectfully submitted that Dependent Claim 41 is patentable over Deeran, Ganthier, and Sylvan for the reasons discussed above.

Claims 21, 34, and 47 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Deeran et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,594,471 (hereafter Deeran) in view of Sylvan et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,572,573 (hereafter Sylvan). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Dependent Claim 21 is dependent on allowable Independent Claim 11, which is allowable over Deeran. Moreover, Sylvan does not disclose a user removable data input device that includes a data input surface that is responsive to a touch thereon and is in an unabutted location relative to a perimeter of a display device. Further, the user removable data input device has one of a plurality of marking configurations, wherein each marking configuration facilitates operating the data input surface in one of a plurality of functional configurations,

as recited in Claim 11. Hence, it is respectfully submitted that Dependent Claim 21 is patentable over Deeran and Sylvan for the reasons discussed above.

Dependent Claim 34 is dependent on allowable Independent Claim 23, which is allowable over Deeran. Moreover, Sylvan does not disclose an electronic system having an electronic display device, a data input device that includes a data input surface that is responsive to a touch thereon and is in an unabutted location relative to a perimeter of the electronic display device, and a user removable template having one of a plurality of marking configurations, wherein each marking configuration facilitates operating the data input surface in one of a plurality of functional configurations, and wherein the user removable template is positioned over the data input surface, as recited in Claim 23. Hence, it is respectfully submitted that Dependent Claim 34 is patentable over Deeran and Sylvan for the reasons discussed above.

Dependent Claim 47 is dependent on allowable Independent Claim 36, which is allowable over Deeran. Moreover, Sylvan does not disclose an electronic system having an electronic display device and a user removable data input device that includes a data input surface that is responsive to a touch thereon and is in an unabutted location relative to a perimeter of the electronic display device. Further, the user removable data input device has one of a plurality of marking configurations, wherein each marking configuration facilitates

operating the data input surface in one of a plurality of functional configurations, as recited in Claim 36. Hence, it is respectfully submitted that Dependent Claim 47 is patentable over Deeran and Sylvan for the reasons discussed above.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments, arguments and remarks overcome all rejections and objections. For at least the above-presented reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all remaining claims (Claims 1-6, 11-16, 21-28, 33-41, and 46-49) are now in condition for allowance.

The Examiner is urged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

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Respectfully submitted,

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